

West Virginia Secretary of State's Office
Campaign Finance Reporting System (CFRS) Frequently Asked Questions

Q.: *How can I view the campaign finance reports?*

A.: The campaign finance reports can be viewed on the Secretary of State's website at www.wvsos.com. Click the "[Elections](#)" icon on the front page, and then click "[View 2014 Campaign Finance Reports](#)."

Q.: *Why are there separate pages to view reports filed on paper and reports filed online?*

A.: The only candidates who are **required** to file online are those running for a constitutional office, i.e. Statewide Office (Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Treasurer, Auditor, and Agriculture Commissioner) and State Supreme Court. Candidates for offices such as House of Delegates and State Senate may file online if they wish.

Q.: *Where can I find historical campaign finance reports?*

A.: On the CFRS page, click on "Elections." You can select the election year for which you would like to view reports by clicking on the tab and scrolling down to your desired year.

Q.: *What is the graph on the front page of the CFRS?*

A.: The graph on the front page of the CFRS shows combined contributions and expenditures for all candidates, broken down by the branch of office.

Q.: *Why can't I find the report I am looking for?*

A.: There are several possible reasons why a report may not be currently viewable, such as:

- The report was mailed and has not been received yet (paper filings must only be postmarked by the filing date);
- The paper report has been received but not yet scanned and posted online. It is the policy of the Secretary of State's Office to post these reports online as quickly as possible, even though state code gives us ten business days;
- For the first reporting period of the election year, the candidate or committee may not have received or spent more than \$500 and filed a waiver (a waiver report is viewable online);
- The candidate (or committee) may have been nominated for the general election by means other than a primary and does not file primary election reports; or
- The candidate (or committee) may not have filed.

Q.: *How do I know if the report I am looking for was filed on paper or online?*

A.: To search reports filed online using the CFRS, simply click the "Candidates" tab. All candidates who filed online with the CFRS will be listed here. If you are seeking a report from a candidate not listed there, click "Paper Filers." This will take you to a page where all of the paper campaign finance reports are listed by the candidate's district. The paper and online filings are being combined in one location and all will be available soon.

Q.: *I still have questions, is there someone I can contact?*

A.: We will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the campaign finance reporting system. You may contact us by phone at (304) 558-6000 or by email at elections@wvsos.com.